

FORT LAUDERDALE MLE PROJECT PURPOSE

- ❑ To increase **citizen awareness and understanding** about our public schools system and the factors promoting the well being of youth. (*Neighborhood Leadership College*)
- ❑ To **articulate a vision and an action plan** to improve public schools, student achievement, conditions and opportunities for children and families. (*Study Circles*)
- ❑ To **implement an action plan on a citywide, collaborative basis.** (*Healthy Community-Healthy Youth Strategy*)

MLE PROJECT AT-A-GLANCE

A series of public information forums and training workshops will be held during 2002-2003. The general public, educators, school communities, civic associations, business groups and others will be invited to attend. The purpose of these efforts will be to help citizens understand the mechanics of the public education system, explore options for collaboration and to build support networks for the city's schools and students

Beginning this summer, the City will recruit individuals representative of the City's diversity and many community-based organizations to participate in an education visioning process. 20-30 "Study Circles", comprised of 10-15 individuals will meet 4-6 times over a 6-8 week period to develop plans that allow informed action for schools improvement. The small group efforts will be reviewed in a community forum to develop a consolidated, consensus plan.

Plan implementation will begin next year and continue on an evolving basis.

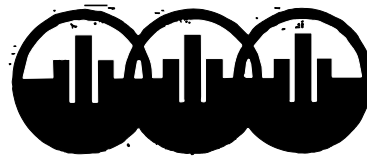


Jim Naugle, Mayor
Cindi Hutchinson, Vice-Mayor
Tim Smith, Commissioner
Carlton Moore, Commissioner
Gloria Katz, Commissioner

Project Oversight:

MLE Project Team, John P. Wilkes, Chair
The Education Advisory Board, EAB

Project Sponsors:



The National League of Cities



Institute for Youth, Education & Families

Local Project Collaborators:

Broward County Public Schools, BCPS
Coordinating Council of Broward County, CCB
Council of Fort Lauderdale Civic Associations, CFLCA

For More Information:

Leslie G. Carhart, Project Liaison
634 NE 3rd Avenue, 2nd Floor
Fort Lauderdale, FL, 33304
Ph: 954-828-8962 – Fax: 954-762-8974

The City of Fort Lauderdale MUNICIPAL LEADERSHIP IN EDUCATION PROJECT

WHAT:

The MLE is a 30 Month Technical Assistance Program conducted by the National League of Cities (NLC), and Institute for Youth, Education and Families (IYEF) for the purpose of developing and sharing "best practices" related to how Cities can work together with local School Districts and Community-Based Organizations to improve public education. Our City is one of only six cities nationally to be selected to be apart of this project.

WHO:

- New Haven, Connecticut
- **Fort Lauderdale, Florida**
- Lansing, Michigan
- Portland, Oregon
- Columbus, Ohio
- Charleston, South Carolina

WHEN:

Now through December 2003

☐ **YES! I would like to participate in the Fort Lauderdale MLE Project. Please send or contact me with more information.**

- PLEASE PRINT CONTACT INFORMATION BELOW -

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: (954) _____ (Day)

(954) _____ (Evening)

Fax: (954) _____

E-Mail: _____

I am particularly interested in the following:

- ☐ Attending the forums and workshops
- ☐ Participating on the working group that will help coordinate and carry out the project
- ☐ Facilitating or participating in one of the visioning groups (Study Circles)
- ☐ Other: _____

Mail or Deliver to:

**The City of Fort Lauderdale
City Hall, City Manager's Office
100 North Andrews Ave, 7th Floor
Fort Lauderdale, FL, 33301
ATTENTION: MLE Project-Carhart**

Background

The public education system is a uniquely American institution. It is how we prepare our youth for the responsibilities of citizenship and self-governance. It is their rite of passage into the mainstream of our workforce, marketplaces and leadership. Public education, the children and families served by that system, are central to all community and economic building efforts. As a function of quality of life and standards of living, public schools contribute to the fundamental viability and stability of all cities.

Our City enjoys a history of involvement and accomplishment in public education. Our founding families established the local school system and were prominent educators, activists and leaders in the system. Our students and schools have distinguished themselves in many ways through the years. Graduates have chosen to make our city their home, pursuing careers and raising families here. But we have also faced many challenges and issues through the years.

There are 32 public schools located in or adjacent to Fort Lauderdale. They are organized into "Innovation Zones" as a way to encourage community support and improve academic planning. The main Fort Lauderdale zones are the Dillard, Stranahan and Fort Lauderdale High School zones.

Approximately 31,000 students attended these schools during the 2001-2002 school year, not all of whom are city residents. However, 75-80+% of our resident students do attend public schools. Public education matters to these students and to their families. For anyone who lives, works or visits in Fort Lauderdale, it matters. We all benefit and, therefore, our caring participation in the improvement process is essential.

In pursuit of educational excellence and equity ... quite simply, "It takes a City." The City of Fort Lauderdale encourages everyone to support our public schools and their students. We invite you to learn more about and help us assure the success of the Municipal Leadership in Education project.

Opportunities for You to be Involved

If you are interested in becoming directly involved in one of our public schools the following options may be available to you by contacting the schools or School District directly:

- Mentoring & Tutoring
- Volunteering administrative support
- Join the School Advisory Forum, School Improvement Committee or PTA/PTO
- Become a "Partner in Education" sponsor

Contact Broward County Public Schools At:

Phone: (954) 765-6274 or 765-6970

Web: <http://www.browardschools.com/>

Your help with the MLE project is also needed and will be appreciated. There are many ways you can be involved and you are only limited by the extent of your interest, available time and energy!

You can attend forums and workshops. You can become a facilitator to lead the small group visioning activities. You can be a group member. You can recruit participants or sponsors. You can work with the Project Team and Education Advisory Board to help coordinate the project. You can become a member of the EAB. And, you may have other ideas about how you can help.

Please complete, detach and mail the form on this brochure to let us know you want to be informed and involved!